

officials, he has escaped any consequences of his actions. Gill should be tried for genocide."

Information recently released to Tehelka by the PHRO showed that Talwinder Singh Parmar, the leader of Babbar Khalsa (an organization significantly infiltrated and controlled by the Indian government) had identified Lakhbir Singh Brar (Rode), leader of the International Sikh Youth Federation (ISYF), as the main culprit behind the bombing and as an Indian government agent. A police official, Harmail Singh Chandi, showing documents that were supposed to have been destroyed, reported that Parmar was murdered in police custody. It is clear that Parmar was killed to keep him from talking about Rode's involvement. As a Canadian Security Investigative Service agent who was quoted in Zuhair Kashmeri and Brian McAndrew's book *Soft Target* said, "If you really want to clear up the incidents quickly, take vans down to the Indian High Commission and the consulates in Toronto and Vancouver. We know it and they know it that they are involved."

"If Gill can testify, why not call Kashmeri and McAndrew? Former Member of Parliament David Kilgour, who wrote *Betrayal: The Spy That Canada Abandoned*, should also be invited to testify," Dr. Aulakh said. In his book Kilgour reports on a Canadian-Polish double agent named Ryszard Paszkowski, who was approached by representatives of the Indian regime, who asked him to participate in a second bombing because "the first one worked so well." Paszkowski should also be invited to testify.

A report issued by the Movement Against State Repression (MASR) shows that India admitted that it held 52,268 political prisoners under the repressive "Terrorist and Disruptive Activities Act" (TADA), which expired in 1995. Many have been in illegal custody since 1984. According to Amnesty International, there are tens of thousands of other minorities being held as political prisoners in India. The Indian government has murdered over 250,000 Sikhs since 1984, more than 300,000 Christians in Nagaland, over 90,000 Muslims in Kashmir, tens of thousands of Christians and Muslims throughout the country, and tens of thousands of Tamils, Assamese, Manipuris, Dalits, Bodos, and others. The Indian Supreme Court called the Indian government's murders of Sikhs "worse than a genocide."

"How can anyone accept testimony of the representative of this bloody regime?" Dr. Aulakh asked. "In a free Khalistan, no one would accept those who carry out genocide against the Sikh religion and the Sikh Nation or against any other people," he said. "The Sikh Nation and the Sikh religion cannot flourish without political power. We must free Khalistan now."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. KEITH ELLISON

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 23, 2007

Mr. ELLISON. Madam Speaker, on October 22, 2007, I inadvertently failed to vote on roll-call No. 983-985, had I voted, I would have voted "aye."

TRIBUTE TO "MOUNT CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH" ON THEIR 90TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 23, 2007

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, it is with great honor and enthusiasm that I rise to congratulate Mount Calvary Baptist Church as they join together in celebration of their 90th Anniversary. They will be celebrating his very momentous and joyous occasion with a banquet held on October 20th, 2007.

The Mount Calvary has a very rich history that has given it life and longevity for the past 90 years. It all began in the late summer of 1916. Mr. Sterling Grayson Jr. along with two other colleagues, Reverend William Lilly and Reverend Young, sat among each other and through conversation, the idea was born in the mind of Mr. Grayson to plan and organize a Missionary Baptist Church. In September of that year, at Thomas Chapel, located at 91 West 134th Street, the idea of the three men came to fruition.

Mr. Sterling Grayson, Jr., who at the time was a college student, turned over the officiating of the church to his father, Reverend Sterling Grayson, Sr. Through names submitted by the new church congregation and pastor, Reverend Grayson Sr.'s submission of Mount Calvary Baptist Church is chosen and he becomes known as the author of the official name of the church on September 27th, 1917. Mount Calvary continues to flourish at its new location of 231 West 142nd Street in my district.

From its modest beginning, Mount Calvary Baptist Church has emerged as a cornerstone of the community. Under the guidance of Reverend Dr. Adolph Roberts, Jr., Mount Calvary continues to thrive, both in terms of spiritual growth as well as practical improvements. The proud members of the church are thankful for the spiritual and emotional leadership he and the previous pastors have provided during the years.

Reverend Dr. Adolph Roberts, Jr. was installed as pastor of the church in April of 1983. Though he is dedicated to his congregants, he has never limited his time and love for his family. Reverend Dr. Adolph Roberts, Jr. and his wife of 43 years, Victoria, have one son, Anthony and three grandchildren. He is a scholar and a veteran of the Korean War, where he served with the 82nd Airborne Infantry Division.

The 90th Anniversary Worship Service and Celebration Week began on Monday, October 15th, 2007, with the Friendship Baptist Church Family and Pastor James A. Kilgore. On Saturday, October 20th, 2007, there will be an evening of love and appreciation at the Alhambra Ballroom Banquet in my district where Reverend Dr. James Forbes will be the guest speaker. The celebration banquet will include with church services on Sunday, October 21, 2007, with the Mount Calvary Baptist Church Family of Savannah, Georgia, and Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you and my distinguished colleagues join me in honoring and congratulating Mount Calvary Baptist Church on their historic 90th Anniversary. Their constant dedication, commitment, and spiritual

guidance is worthy of the highest commendation.

TRIBUTE TO KEITH HOLLIDAY, MAYOR OF GREENSBORO, NORTH CAROLINA

HON. MELVIN L. WATT

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 23, 2007

Mr. WATT. Madam Speaker, Representative BRAD MILLER of North Carolina and I are pleased to join in this tribute to the Honorable Keith Holliday, who will soon be retiring as Mayor of Greensboro, NC.

Mayor Holliday is a model public servant who served as a member of the Greensboro City Council from 1995 to 1999 and has served as Mayor since 2000. He has distinguished himself nationally, effectively leading Greensboro through major economic and political challenges, through economic redevelopment and through a renaissance of Greensboro's downtown. He has helped position greenways, parks, public art projects and other beautification initiatives on Greensboro's priority agenda and has focused on servicing an ever-expanding, diverse and multi-cultural population.

Mayor Holliday has also been a committed and persuasive advocate for the International Civil Rights Center and Museum. Throughout the world, North Carolina is recognized as the birthplace of the sit-in movement and the International Civil Rights Center and Museum, the site of the original sit-ins, is being renovated and will be opening soon as a lasting tribute to the "Greensboro Four." These four courageous students from North Carolina A&T State University led thousands of students and others who sat down at the F.W. Woolworth lunch counter in Greensboro, NC, to protest segregation and ultimately changed the human condition and struck a blow for human dignity, equality and justice for all.

We applaud Mayor Holliday as he continues to raise his voice in support of the completion of the International Civil Rights Center and Museum so the city of Greensboro and the citizens of North Carolina and this Nation will always remember this great chapter in American history. We join in thanking Mayor Keith Holliday for his many years of exceptional public service.

BIRTHDAY OF GURU NANAK, FOUNDER OF SIKH RELIGION

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 23, 2007

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, on October 20, Sikhs around the world will celebrate the birthday of Guru Nanak Dev Ji, the founder of the Sikh religion, who was born in 1469. There are about 25 million Sikhs worldwide. I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Sikhs around the world on this important occasion.

Guru Nanak had a spiritual experience in 1499 while bathing in the Bein river. He received revelations for 3 days, then became a

travelling preacher, preaching a philosophy of inclusion, tolerance, and universalism. "There is neither Hindu nor Muslim," he said, and he used both Hindu and Muslim titles for God. Guru Nanak met with both Hindu and Muslim leaders.

His following continued to grow. He eventually settled in Kartarpur, Punjab.

Guru Nanak taught that humans could approach God directly, that God is a formless, unified being. He taught that we could do this by many means including meditation, purification, spiritual purity, and achieving detachment. He encouraged charity. He taught that caste didn't matter. All that mattered was following the spiritual path. He admonished his followers to oppose tyranny and repression.

The teachings of Guru Nanak and his successors are recorded in the *Adi Granth*, the holy scripture of the Sikh religion, also called the *Guru Granth Sahib*. It is written in Punjabi, the language of the Sikhs, which was not considered acceptable by the other religious leaders of the time, but which shows that God favors no caste or group.

Guru Nanak's birthday is a major occasion for the Sikh Nation and I congratulate Sikhs worldwide on the celebration of his birth, which gave rise to their religion.

IN RECOGNITION OF GREG
GASPEREEZ AND LAURIE CONNER

HON. NICK J. RAHALL II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 23, 2007

Mr. RAHALL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Greg Gasperecz and Ms. Laurie Conner, in anticipation of the joyful event of their marriage on October 26th, 2007. The institution of marriage is one of the most sacred, cherished and effective traditions in society, and I am pleased today to pause and offer my congratulations to Greg, and best wishes to Laurie, as they approach this important milestone in their lives.

Greg and Laurie have been longtime companions and soul-mates, and they both cherish their proud heritage as lifelong residents of New Orleans, Louisiana. Side by side, in steadfast support of one another, they have celebrated the best of times, and weathered the worst of storms, as survivors of Hurricane Katrina.

In September of 2005, Greg and Laurie were each living the American Dream of home ownership, and Laurie owned a rental property as well, all in the Lakeview neighborhood of New Orleans. Although they were both able to evacuate in the days before the storm, they had to leave behind a lifetime of possessions in the homes they loved so much. By the time they were able to return, they found their homes defiantly still standing, but the structures and entire contents, were a total loss. All 3 houses, wiped out in a single day.

In December of 2005, my wife and I decided to celebrate our first wedding anniversary in New Orleans. And we decided to drive from southern West Virginia to southern Louisiana, so that we could better appreciate the storm's damage to the entire region. We went to New Orleans to show our support for the community in some small way, and to personally tell any survivors that we could find, that they had not been forgotten.

It was on that visit that I came to know Greg Gasperecz and Laurie Conner, in what had to be the bleakest period of their lives. They were just beginning to comprehend the totality of their personal loss, and that of their beloved hometown. Yet they spent an entire day and evening, offering us an extended tour of the affected areas, including their homes, and they proudly took us on a tour of the unmistakable French Quarter; which was still proudly vibrant under the dire circumstances that persisted. That day, we stood atop the sandbags that had been dropped 3 months earlier at the breach of the 17th Street Canal, a stream of lake water still slowly spreading into the street below. Greg offered his insight and expertise as he explained the environmental implications of both the cause and the effects of the disaster.

Greg and Laurie had so much to be sad about at that time, but they were still the most charming hosts for which the city could ever hope. I was touched by their pride and compassion, and inspired by their stoic resolve to remain and to rebuild. And 2 years later, rebuild they have. It is my understanding that in the last week, they have finally been able to begin construction on a brand new home, in their same Lakeview neighborhood. And this week, in their beloved French Quarter, they will stand before their loved ones and recite their vows of marriage to one another. Greg and Laurie realize that they have been blessed; to have each other, to have survived this epic disaster, and to have been able to rebuild their home and their lives. They don't take any of that for granted, instead, have chosen to recommit to rebuilding their community, and give back to the city that has given them so much. This is so characteristic of the proud and tough West Virginia work ethic and belief in God.

Madam Speaker, I close my remarks today with congratulations to Greg and Laurie. I ask that you join me in wishing them well, and trust that they will have many happy years together in New Orleans, LA.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PETER T. KING

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 23, 2007

Mr. KING of New York. Madam Speaker, due to the recent passing of my mother, I have been absent in Washington since Thursday, October 18 and have missed a number of votes. However, if I had been present, this is how I would have voted on each rollcall:

Rollcall No. 981: On Approving the Journal, "aye".

Rollcall No. 982: Passage, Objections of the President Notwithstanding of the Children's Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act, "aye".

Rollcall No. 983: On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, as amended, the Paterson Great Falls National Historic Parks Act, "aye".

Rollcall No. 984: On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, as Amended, the Douglas County, Washington, PUD Conveyance Act, "aye".

Rollcall No. 985: On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree to Supporting the Goals of National Bullying Prevention Awareness Week, "aye".

STRONG SUPPORT OF PRIVILEGED
RESOLUTION

HON. TERRY EVERETT

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 23, 2007

Mr. EVERETT. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of this privileged resolution to censure Representative PETE STARK (CA), offered by the Republican Leader. Like many of my colleagues, I was disgusted by the comments of the gentleman from California, Mr. STARK.

Regardless of his personal feelings on the war in Iraq or any other issue before Congress, Mr. STARK's comments were distasteful and not in keeping with the traditions of the House of Representatives. His despicable statements on October 18, 2007 about the Commander in Chief, his colleagues in Congress, and the men and women who are serving our Nation in Iraq and Afghanistan should be condemned.

Mr. STARK just doesn't get it. The service and sacrifice of our men and women in uniform deserve to be honored and applauded in Congress—not chided and denigrated by his senseless remarks. I found his recent actions on the floor of the House to be extremely disrespectful of our military and our Commander in Chief. We face serious challenges at home and abroad and Mr. STARK should consider the impact of these comments before opening his mouth in the future.

A TRIBUTE TO JOSEPH SELLERS

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 23, 2007

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor a man who rose through the Sheet Metal Worker ranks to become a figurehead and an important contributor to the Sheet Metal Worker community. Joseph Sellers, Jr. is a self-made man who has worked hard to get to where he is today. He began as an apprentice in 1980, and became a journeyman in 1984.

Joseph Sellers, Jr. began his career on the Local 19 Executive Board in 1994. Two years after, he was elected to the position of training coordinator, which he held for 4½ years. He followed this position with the position of business representative, and then was unanimously elected by the Local 19 Executive Board to the office of president and business manager. In June of 2003, he was again unanimously elected to this position. He is currently serving his third term in this office.

During his tenure on the Local 19 Executive Board for the Sheet Metal Workers, Mr. Sellers has held a number of other important positions, and left his mark in each of them. These titles include President of the Pennsylvania State Council of Sheet Metal Workers, President for the Metropolitan Association of Presidents and Business Representatives, President of the Board of Directors for the National Energy Management Institute, Vice President of the Philadelphia Building and Construction Trades Council, and Vice President of the Philadelphia AFL-CIO.